

## Message Text

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53

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 PM-03

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 ACDA-05 AID-05 OMB-01 /061 W

----- 108008

O R 291156Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4828

INFO AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

SECDEF WASHDC

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

USIA WASHDC

COMUSMACTHAI BANGKOK

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KUALA LUMPUR PLEASE PASS TO ASST. SECRETARY HABIB

USIA FOR IEA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, TH, MILI

SUBJ: PRIME MINISTER KUKRIT PRAMOT PRESS STATEMENT MAY 29

1. PRIME MINISTER KUKRIT PRAMOT TOLD NEWSMEN TODAY THAT  
SECRETARY KISSINGER HAS NEGLECTED SOUTHEAST ASIA.

2. THE PRIME MINISTER WAS RESPONDING TO A PRESS QUERY REGARDING  
AN ARTICLE IN THE MAY 30 EDITION OF FAR EASTERN ECONOMIC  
REVIEW, WHICH CONTAINED THE FOLLOWING PASSAGE: "ASKED ABOUT  
THE THAI GOVERNMENT'S COMPLAINTS OVER THE WAY IN WHICH THE US  
WAS VILLATING ITS SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE MAYAGUEZ, KISSINGER  
TOLD REPORTERS THAT THEY SHOULD NOT PAY ATTENTION TO THAI  
POLITICIANS, BUT RATHER TO THE THAI MILITARY. THE MILITARY  
WERE HAPPY ENOUGH FOR THE US TO USE TAPAO AND THAT WAS WHAT  
MATTERED, HE SAID PRIVATELY."

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3. FEW REPORTERS WERE PRESENT WHEN THE PRIME MINISTER RESPONDED TO THAT PASSAGE, AND HIS REMARKS WERE NOT RECORDED. LATER, AT THE REQUEST OF OTHER NEWSMEN, AN OFFICIAL OF THE PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT TOLD THE PRESS (ACCORDING TO A USIS TRANSLATION OF THE RECORDING): BEGIN TEXT.

PRIME MINISTER M.R. KUKRIT PRAMOT GAVE A NEWS CONFERENCE TO REPORTERS WAITING TO PUT QUESTIONS TO HIM AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE ON THE MORNING OF MAY 29, 1975 ON THE INTERVIEW SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY KISSINGER GAVE TO THE FAR EASTERN ECONOMIC REVIEW -- AN INTERVIEW PUBLISHED IN THE LATEST ISSUE. IT IS ON THE ISSUE OF THE WITHDRAWAL OF AMERICAN MILITARY FORCES FROM THAILAND, AND IN THE INTERVIEW DR. KISSINGER STATED THAT NO ATTENTION SHOULD BE PAID TO POLITICIANS, BUT ATTENTION SHOULD BE PAID TO THAI MILITARY OFFICIALS, WHO ARE HAPPY AT THE PRESENCE OF AMERICAN MILITARY FORCES IN THAILAND. THE PRIME MINISTER STATED IN ANSWERING: "IF HE DOESN'T WORRY ABOUT THAI POLITICIANS, IT DOESN'T MATTER. I WILL MEET MILITARY OFFICIALS NOW. IT ISN'T AT ALL TRUE THAT THAI MILITARY OFFICIALS ARE HAPPY AT THE PRESENCE OF AMERICAN MILITARY FORCES IN THAILAND. GEN. KRIT SIVARA AND ALL MILITARY OFFICIALS ARE OF THE SAME VIEW AS THE GOVERNMENT IN EVERY WAY. WHAT KISSINGER SAID IS HIS OWN STATEMENT. WHAT CAN BE EXPECTED FROM AMERICAN POLITICIANS? KISSINGER IS NOT INTERESTED IN ANYTHING AT ALL, EXCEPT HIS OWN COUNTRY AND THE MIDDLE EAST, BECAUSE HE IS A JEW. HE HAS NEVER EVEN GLANCED AT SOUTHEAST ASIA. IN REGARD TO THE WITHDRAWAL OF AMERICAN MILITARY FORCES FROM THAILAND, THE AMERICAN BASE IN UBON WILL BE DEFINITELY CLOSED DOWN IN JUNE THIS YEAR. WE ARE MAKING PREPARATIONS FOR OUR MEN TO TAKE IT OVER." END TEXT.

4. THIS DISTORTION OF WHAT THE SECRETARY MIGHT HAVE TOLD REPORTERS, AS REPORTED IN THE FAR EAST ECONOMIC REVIEW, COULD BE USED BY SOME ELEMENTS HERE TO EXACERBATE THE CURRENT SITUATION, AND THE DEPARTMENT MIGHT WISH ISSUE AN APPROPRIATE COMMENT OR DENIAL.  
WHITEHOUSE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SOVEREIGNTY, PRESS CONFERENCES, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, MAYAGUEZ SS, MILITARY BASE AGREEMENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 29 MAY 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
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**Executive Order:** R1 19880612 MCMANAWAY, C E  
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**From:** BANGKOK  
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**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PRIME MINISTER KUKIT PRAMOT PRESS STATEMENT MAY 29  
**TAGS:** PFOR, MILI, TH, XC, US, (KISSINGER, HENRY A), (KUKRIT PRAMOT)  
**To:** STATE KUALA LUMPUR  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006